

News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Rep. Kind to Pave Way for Transportation Bill; Jobs for Wisconsin

Kind to serve on bipartisan conference committee to finalize highway transportation bill

Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) was chosen as one among a select few members of Congress to serve on the bipartisan House-Senate Transportation Conference Committee tasked to reauthorize highway and public transit programs for the next six years, which will create thousands of jobs in the state of Wisconsin. The committee will meet to reconcile differences in the transportation bills passed by the two chambers of Congress.

"This transportation bill is critical, not just to maintain and improve Wisconsin's highway and transit system, but because of the thousands of jobs that will be created to support these projects," stated Kind, who supported the House passed legislation in April. "I am pleased that western Wisconsin will have a place at the table as Congress finalizes this important piece of legislation."

The transportation bill provides funding for federal-aid highway, public transit, transportation safety and research, with additional funding reserved for urgent need projects in individual congressional districts. The efforts of Wisconsin's congressional delegation, led by U.S. Rep. Petri (R-WI), who is the Chairman of the Highways, Transit and Pipelines Subcommittee, secured a total of \$3.6 billion in transportation funds for the state. The bill also awards \$14 million in additional funding for critical highways, transit centers and bridges in Wisconsin's Third Congressional District.

"At a time when more than eight million Americans are looking for work, this bill is estimated to create 47,500 new jobs for each billion dollars spent on highway funding. With the \$3.6 billion in funding for Wisconsin, that means approximately 170,000 jobs over the next six years for our state's workers," stated Kind. "Recognizing the importance of this bill with respect to our state's highway infrastructure and jobs for Wisconsinites, I intend to work in a bipartisan fashion with the other committee members to expeditiously resolve the differences between the chambers so Congress can send the bill to the President to sign into law."